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JPRS L/8424

27 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA  
FOUO No. 632

AFRICA

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## TRANSLATIONS ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

ARRIVAL IN MOZAMBIQUE OF GDR MILITARY ADVISORS REPORTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 648

[Text] Some 500 GDR military advisors have reportedly arrived in Mozambique during the weeks preceding the 22 and 24 February visit to this country by Erich Honecker, chairman of the State Council of the GDR. This was announced on 25 February by the Sunday weekly WELT AM SONNTAG of the Springer group.

The newspaper refers to information issued by Western intelligence services. It adds that "many more hundreds" of East Germans are reportedly stationed in Zambia. According to the WELT AM SONNTAG, "this could be the prelude to a large offensive mounted by the black nationalist movements against Rhodesia."

Again according to the weekly, the East German military advisors in Mozambique have reportedly been assigned the task of training Robert Mugabe's troops, the leader of the ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union], as well as Joshua Nkomo's troops, the leader of the ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union], especially in the use of the SAM 7 Soviet missiles, one of which recently downed a Rhodesian transport plane.

Diplomatic circles and observers in Berlin believe that this type of cooperation with the nationalist elements implanted in the "front-line states" bordering Rhodesia as well as South Africa which are already enjoying material assistance from the GDR, seems more plausible than the training of ZAPU pilots in East Germany.

This information, issued in Lusaka at the time of Honecker's visit, has not been confirmed in East Berlin, where diplomatic circles expressed a certain skepticism.

On the other hand, these same circles and other observers have stressed that the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed on 24 February in Maputo by Honecker and Mozambican President Samora Machel includes a military clause. "The two signatories, which will coordinate their position in case of a

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violent incident threatening peace, have decided to regulate their cooperation in the military field through bilateral arrangements in order to consolidate their defensive capacity," the document says. It is estimated in Berlin that such agreements could be useful for putting the stamp of official approval on the presence of instructors and advisors.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MALI-GHANA, IVORY COAST AGREEMENTS--The Council of Ministers of Mali, assembled on 18 January in Kuluba under the chairmanship of head of state Gen Moussa Traore, has ratified draft agreements on judiciary cooperation as well as three agreements regarding postal and telecommunication services, the movement of people and goods and cooperation in matters pertaining to tourism between the Republic of Mali and the Republic of Ghana. The Council has also ratified two draft treaties signed on 13 January 1979 by Mali and the Ivory Coast, the first dealing with benefits granted to agencies and services, as well as to civil servants and agents operating in either country, and the second relating to the cooperation between the Ivory Coast and Mali in matters dealing with transportation and maritime transit. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 317]

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

VOLVO BUSES--The Swedish automobile factory VOLVO will sell 400 buses and heavy trucks to the Angolan Ministry of Transportation. The contract, which was just signed in Stockholm, is for a total of 106 million kroner; it is the second large contract obtained by this Swedish firm from Angola. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 953 11 Apr 79 p 79]

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BENIN

BRIEFS

GENERAL POPULATION CENSUS--Benin has started a general census of its population and their places of residence. This operation, being carried out during March, is part of the UN decennial census program. The operation in progress is part of the 1970-80 section of the United Nations and its total cost is estimated at 835 million CFA francs. Benin is providing 59.2 percent of the total cost, whereas the UN Fund for Population Activities (FNUAP) is supplying 40.8 percent. This census operation will be carried out in several stages. Thus the training of census compilers recruited from among the 753 students of teaching colleges, plus 332 secondary school teachers in the ratio of 4 teachers per district, took place in the 6 provincial capitals from 26 February to 5 March. During the stage extending from 7 to 17 March, the 1,085 compilers mentioned above will in turn train the 4,000 recording officials and the 800 team leaders, in the ratio of 1 team leader per 5 recording officials. The census itself will then be taken within 10 days after completion of training; during these 10 days, each recording official must take a census of 1,000 to 2,000 persons in an urban area and 800 persons in a rural area. Consideration will actually be given to the distribution of places of residence and to population density in order to define census zones. Each zone will be outlined on a map and each recording official will have a map of his area to determine his territory. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 16 Mar 79 p 643] 11915

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BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

DIAMOND PRODUCTION--A fourth development plan (1976-1981) is being implemented in Botswana. For the fiscal year 1978 revenues amounted to 121 million pulas (1 pula-approximately 5 French francs), corresponding to an increase of approximately 40 percent, while expenses amounted to 131.5 million (+22 percent); its estimated deficit of 10.5 million constitutes only 50 percent of that of the preceding budget. In 1977 foreign trade showed a deficit equivalent to 38.9 million DTS (-1.7 million). At the end of 1977 exchange reserves rose to a countervalue of 84.3 million DTS (+20.4 million over the end of 1976). With the Iwaneng and Orapa deposits controlled by De Beers (the state being a partner in capitalization), Botswana owns two of the most important diamond mines in the world. The Orapa mine, in operation in the northern part of the Kalahari desert, supplied 4.5 million karats in 1978, twice the production of 1977 (15 percent in gems and 85 percent in industrial diamonds). The exploitation of the Iwaneng deposit required equipment valued at 128.7 million pounds sterling. The subsoil is rich in minerals. Prospecting continues for diamonds, copper and uranium-bearing minerals. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 306]

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CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE

PEOPLE WISH TO PUT AN END TO BOKASSA REGIME

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 19 Mar-1 Apr 79 pp 55-56

[Article by Jean Ngnaman Ti Ngula: "The Last Days of Berengo"]

[Text] Having taken refuge in his Versailles, far from an impoverished and turbulent capital, Bokassa is hurriedly pillaging coffers of a bankrupt nation. "After me, the deluge . . . " The storm clouds are already gathering . . .

After the bloody events which occurred in Bangui on 20 and 21 January, everything suggests that the last days of the dictator crowned Bokassa I are numbered. The repression started by Zairian-Central African forces has actually only intensified the resentment and anger of a population weary of enduring the whims and greed of the former French Army corporal who, by the sole will of the Elysee Palace, has reigned for 13 years as absolute master over a country pillaged and drained of its resources.

But all sorts of tactics have been used to bring about an apparent "normalization" of the situation.

As is his custom, the megalomaniac of Berengo has tried to ascribe the responsibility for the events to scapegoats chosen from among members of his government and civil servants, accused of having taken "antisocial measures." Thus the hunting companion of Giscard d'Estaing has had the ministers of national education--Kazagui--and higher education--Zokoe--arrested, as well as several other officials (including the headmaster of the Bangui high school).

Relatives of elementary and secondary students singled out as instigators of the demonstrations have not been spared, of course, and today are still the object of countless incidents of harassment. Finally, it is known that it is as a result of additional financial aid granted by Paris--at the time of the visit to France by the head of the Central African Government, Mr Henri Maidou--that civil servants and students were able to collect their wages and scholarships, which went unpaid for months.

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Thus no effort has been spared, in Paris as well as in Bangui and in Kinshasa (whose mercenaries have flown to the aid of Mobutu's friend) to try to save the face of a government which appears to be more and more hopelessly doomed. The reports of the French ambassador to Bangui are also alarming and are arousing the greatest concern in the Elysee Palace. In fact, it has been noted that locally printed clandestine pamphlets have been in circulation almost everywhere for weeks and it is confirmed that "Emperor" Bokassa is running real risks.

Under these conditions, it is clear that the angry explosion of elementary and secondary students embittered by strict standards which require them to wear a uniform, as well as the supporting demonstrations of thousands of local civil servants, workers, farmers and unemployed persons, represented only a serious warning signal. For 13 years of capricious, dictatorial management of government affairs by a man whose only goal is to use and to serve his French masters, on the backs of the people, have created an explosive situation in which anything can happen.

Bitterness is even keener since the army's overthrow of Mr David Dacko on 1 January 1966 had been received with a certain degree of relief, justified by the intrigue and corruption which characterized the former administration. The young officers who had just seized power had also pledged to struggle against these evils. To end injustice, to get the economy moving again, to create jobs and to promote harmonious development of the country: these were actually the declared goals of the military committee which was set up.

#### A Bloody Purge

However, the tune began to change after listening to the first speech by the new chief of state, Colonel Bokassa, chosen for his duties because of his seniority and his superior rank in the army. After praising his cousin Dacko, described as "very intelligent and very responsible, but unfortunately surrounded by bad ministers and advisers," Papa Bok's first objective was to get rid of his putsch companions and the few rare intellectuals able to oppose him.

Thus of all the officers who took part in the Saint Sylvestre putsch, only three are still alive: Generals Dieudonne Magabe, Bangui and Koligba. It should also be noted that, always haunted by the fear of losing his omnipotent power, Bokassa was careful to get these last two individuals out of the way, respectively appointed ambassadors to Paris and Canada. Apparently Generals Bangui and Koligba have no illusions about the unpredictable reactions of the master of Berengo, since they have not set foot in Bangui for years. As though they were afraid of being arrested and suffering the same fate as their former comrades in arms, such as General Mandaba, Colonel Auguste Bongo, Captain Alexandre Banda, Colonels Abakar and Mande and General Lingoundou of the national police force, all of whom were imprisoned, tortured and finally shot. The exile of Dr Abel Gouriba, known and

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respected in certain Central African circles for his consistent nationalism, also occurred in the context of this bloody and systematic purge.

With his hands free, Bokassa did not even feign the appearance of outlining economic, financial or social policy, as is well known. Thus the country's situation grew worse, to the point of plunging all sectors into total paralysis. In 1978, for example, the balance of trade showed a deficit of more than 2 billion CFA francs. Foreign indebtedness, constantly increasing, amounts to 70 billion CFA francs today. Diamond production, until now a principle source of foreign exchange, has taken a nose-dive for several years. Estimated at 500,000 carats at the time of independence, it amounts to barely 300,000 carats today.

The precarious stability of public finances is such that the country has been unable for years to make investments with its own funds. From 1970 to 1977, the budget deficit rose from 1 to 6 billion CFA francs. And Paris is contributing more than 85 percent to the budget of a country whose leaders are famous for the practice of diverting public funds!

In December 1977, more than 10 billion CFA francs were squandered on the masquerade of Bokassa's coronation, an emperor who shamelessly drains government coffers to satisfy his whims. This is how he buys palaces, villas, restaurants, hotels and cafes in Europe and takes lavish vacations according to his moods. Several treasury officials are rotting in the jails of the emperor of Bangui for having dared to protest against this wastefulness. Intrigue and embezzlement are such that Bangui holds the record for the number of Mafiosi, disreputable businessmen and international bandits converging on the country to make a fortune.

The Gowen Affair

Following the famous story of Bokassa's Lebanese stepfather, who mysteriously disappeared with a suitcase full of diamonds, today we report the even more serious affair of Samuel Gowen, a former Israeli general relieved of his command for misconduct during the Klppur war and who, having turned into an international crook, actually appears to be serving as a cover for South African companies for questionable operations. The diamond concession of 30,000 square kilometers, which Bokassa granted to his personal friend Samuel Gowen, has in fact fallen to the racists of Pretoria.

In the image of the emperor, who still sees to it that no one surpasses him in this respect, all those gravitating around the government are trying to accumulate as much property as possible. Each minister owns several villas, taxis, bars, etc. The former minister of finance, Augustin Koyamba, has just built a new superb villa near the university campus, whereas former prime ministers Donitien and Patasse dip into the funds of the National Development Bank (BND) to carry out business operations. This is how Patasse was able to establish SICAGRI, the Agricultural Produce Company.

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#### Revolt Stirring

Ever since, the gap has continued to widen between the flunkies of the government and the vast majority of the population which, in these circumstances, must cope with galloping inflation and bombardment with all sorts of taxes and duties. The earnings of ministers were recently doubled, officially increased from 250,000 to 500,000 CFA francs. An advisory priest to the court receives 1 million CFA francs and Mr Albert Koube, court adviser in charge of the treasury, receives an income of 2.5 million CFA francs. In a country in which per capita income is barely 200 French francs per year and in which a worker has trouble earning 10,000 CFA francs per month, this is a particularly intolerable scandal. And these are only a few examples, which are far from revealing the gross injustice and tragic situation of the Central African people.

Under these conditions, it is understandable that the preferred country of President Giscard d'Estaing's safaris is ripe with revolt. But the question being asked today is how the necessary decisive response can be delivered in the absence of any organized and informed political life.

Of course, the reactions of individuals such as Mr Makombo Bambote, a former Central African ambassador in exile today, who has asked that an investigatory commission under the auspices of the United Nations be sent to Bangui, or the reactions of organizations such as the National Union of Central African students, which is stepping up its meetings and occupations of embassies abroad, are undeniable proof of the awareness of Central Africans and their will to put an end to Bokassa's rule. However, there is still no organized united front capable of dealing with any possibility\* and preventing an alternative neocolonial solution, which Paris is considering more and more.

\*In this regard, it is regrettable that the Central African Student Movement--the only currently existing organization capable of addressing the international community--is being weakened by obscure ideological conflicts most often related to Maoism.

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GUINEA

BRIEFS

SWEDISH MACHINERY--Guinea has just ordered machinery for the manufacture of matches from the Swedish company ARENCO of Kalmar (in the southern part of Sweden) for a total of 8 million kroner (\$1.86 million). The machinery will be installed in the Djoliba match factory now being remodeled. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 629]

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GUINEA-BISSAU

BRIEFS

FRENCH AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE--France has granted aid to Guinea-Bissau in the amount of 1,800,000 francs, as per an agreement signed between Guinea-Bissau State Commissioner for Rural Development (Minister) Mario Cabral and French charge d'affaires in Bissau Jean de Dianous. The French aid will be used to finance the second stage of a project designed to increase peanut production, especially in the Gunere agricultural-industrial complex near Bissau, to purchase agricultural equipment and seeds as well as to strengthen farming methods using animal traction. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 317]

DELEGATION TO BRAZIL--An official delegation from Guinea-Bissau left recently for Brasilia to study a possible increase in the cooperation in various areas offered by Brazil. This delegation, whose arrival in Brasilia was treated with great circumspection, was headed by Leonel Vieira, director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau, who met with Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Azeredo da Silveira. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 317]

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS--During his visit to Guinea-Bissau from 20 to 25 February Gen Ramalho Eanes, president of the Republic of Portugal expressed his interest in various agricultural development projects. Specifically, he visited a project in the regions of Bafata and Bagu in the eastern part of the country for the cultivation of cotton, which will eventually do away with the importation of textiles now in use. Financed by the EEC with the assistance of the French Textile Fibers Development Company (CFDT), this project, which will become a mixed commercial company, has already increased the cotton acreage from 144 hectares in 1976-1977 to 3,500 hectares in 1979 with a 1,400 kilo yield per hectare, 98 percent of which is highest-grade cotton. Through this same project, 3,500 hectares of rice and 2,000 hectares of sorghum and corn will be put under cultivation this year. Still another project in the eastern and northern regions is aimed at replacing completely until 1981 the peanut crops by new varieties which are more resistant to drought (a major problem for Guinea-Bissau) thanks to their shorter cultivation cycle, their long roots and reduced foliage. These new varieties come from Senegal where they have been in use for many years. The FAC [Aid and Cooperation Fund] has granted a credit for this project. [Excerpt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 629]

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IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

SIVOMAR SHIPS--With the approval of the Ivorian Government, the Ivorian Shipping Company SIVOMAR has decided to order four ships of 13,000 to 15,000 tpl. [expansion unknown]. The company has already received a certain number of bids from Japanese and European shipyards. SITRAM had previously ordered eight 16,000-tpl. ships. They were delivered in 1978 and have been put into service. Of the eight ships, five were built in Japan and three in Spain. SIVOMAR, on the other hand, has not concealed the fact that it is considering ordering its ships from France, if the terms stipulated would permit it to do so. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 630] 11915

FRANCO-IVORIAN MANEUVERS--Rear Admiral Philippe Crouzat, in command of attack submarines of the National French Navy, has just visited Abidjan, where he inspected the attack submarine Espadon. Along with other French vessels--the logistic support ship Rhone, the corvette Aconit and the cutter Drogou--the Espadon participated in Franco-Ivorian maneuvers off the Ivorian coast. Admiral Crouzat was received by several Ivorian officials, in particular Captain Lamine Fadika, the minister of the navy and the French ambassador to the Ivory Coast, Mr Michel Dupuch. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 631] 11915

OIL PLATFORM--The French company Stacking-GTM [expansion unknown] for Off-shore Petroleum Operations (ETPM), in partnership with Business and Industrial Union (UIE), has just obtained a contract for a total value of 15.5 million (\$8 million for UIE and \$7.5 million for ETPM) for the construction, transport and installation, in the Belier field off the coast of Abidjan, of a drilling/production platform (eight pilings) and three large production modules for ESSO. The project also includes the laying of a 10-foot pipeline 20.1 kilometers long and its embedment at a depth of 5 meters for a total length of approximately 500 meters. The operations will extend over a 1-year period. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 630] 11915

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REFINERY EXPANSION--The Ivorian Refining Company has just placed an order with Heurtey Industries on 8 March to expand the Abidjan-Vridi refinery, first stage (hydroskimming). This turnkey contract includes the studies and construction of the following units: atmospheric distillation: 2 million tons/year; hydrotreatment of gasoline: 1,500 tons/day (CFR [Co-operative Fuel Research] process); low-pressure catalytic reforming: 1,200 tons/day (IFP [French Petroleum Institute] process); hydrodesulfurization of gas oils: 800 tons/day (CFR process); washing of gases with amines; sulfur production: 40 tons/day (Heurtey process); thermoelectric power plant: 3 boilers with capacity of 100 tons/hour each at 67 bars; 2 turbine-alternator units of 24 MW [megawatt] each; 700,000 cubic meters storage capacity; general installations. The approximate amount of the order is 700 million French francs or 35 billion CFA francs. The scheduled completion period is 23 months. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 16 Mar 79 p 691] 11915

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MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

RESUMPTION OF PETROLEUM RESEARCH--According to MADAGASCAR-MATIN, a mission of experts from the World Bank is currently in Madagascar to discuss petroleum research in Madagascar and to study the possibilities of a resumption, and the means to finance it, with Malagasy officials of the Military Office for Strategic Industries (OMNIS). Malagasy hopes of one day finding "black gold" on land or at sea have been unfulfilled as of the present time. Only a few signs of gas and heavy oils were discovered in the southern part of the country and on the western coast of the island. From 1967 to 1973, petroleum research in Madagascar was particularly intense. Ten foreign companies, most of which were in partnership among themselves and with Malagasy capital, took advantage of about 20 permits for land and offshore research during that period, extending over a total area of 239,000 square kilometers offshore. French, Americans, Italians and Israelis spent 16.5 billion Malagasy francs (\$74 million) in 6 years on 10 drillings, without obtaining convincing results. Only the bituminous sandstones of Bemolanga, in the central-western part of the country and which have long been known, could currently be developed provided that a profitable extraction technique is found, however. The University of Madagascar is participating in this research. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 16 Mar 79 p 707] 11915

FUELS: SOME PROBLEMS--The Supreme Revolutionary Council studied the problem of fuels in its meeting of 5 March, since stock shortages have been noted in certain locations due to routing difficulties, but also and particularly because of fire damage to part of the installations of the Tamatave refinery, which has reduced production from 800,000 to 600,000 cubic meters per year. In addition, 13 tank cars loaded with fuel exploded very recently on the Tananarive/eastern coast line. The government has assured consumers that if this situation should lead to a new shortage, it will only be for a short while, as all necessary measures have been taken to prevent a panic. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 16 Mar 79 p 707] 11915

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MALI

BRIEFS

VERDICT MAY BE ANNULLED--The verdict rendered by the Criminal Court of Mali (regarding notably former Minister Kissima Doukara, who was condemned to death) at the time of the "corruption trial" may be in the process of being annulled. The motive invoked: the Court's transfer from Bamako to Timbuktu should have been decided through a ruling and not a decree. Actually, the real motive seems to be gross inadequacies at the time of the preliminary inquest and the court proceedings. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French No 953 11 Apr 79 p 30]

JAPAN AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION--A six-member Japanese mission visited Mali from 24 January to 7 February to lay the foundations for a fruitful cooperation between this country and Japan in the field of agriculture. The delegation has visited, among others, the Office of the Niger and the lake area in the Timbuktu region. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 317]

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RHODESIA

VIOLATORS OF SANCTIONS REPORTED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 11 Apr 79 pp 80-81

[Article by Mohamed Maiga: "The Friends of Ian Smith"]

[Text] Some powerful Western societies are enabling the Salisbury regime to hold out after 14 years of economic embargo.

On 20 April, nearly 3 million Rhodesians, white and black, will be called to vote in two very distinct ballotings. The blacks will name their 72 representatives to the first "multiracial" Constituent Assembly in Rhodesia's history. The whites will elect 28. These elections are to ratify the "internal settlement agreement" signed on 3 March 1978 between Prime Minister Ian Smith and the three moderate black leaders Abel Muzorewa, Ndabaningi Sithole and Jeremiah Chirau. Quite obviously, the Patriotic Front (that is, the guerilla forces led by Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo) are not taking part in this balloting, which is considered null and void by the United Nations and by the OAU. But in the West, powerful political and economic lobbies are trying to come to the aid of the Salisbury regime and give credibility to Ian Smith's plan.

A victory for the Conservatives in the British elections on 3 May would be the last chance for the "internal settlement." Support for the Rhodesian cause will be one of the principal election campaign themes of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's party. Mr John Davies, her spokesman on foreign affairs, indicated recently that he would "lift the economic sanctions (decided on by the United Nations in January 1966) against Rhodesia," and that he "would not stand by idly if the whites were in danger." Ian Smith did not miss the opportunity to attack the Labor Party, which has just lost power--in particular, the Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs, Dr David Owen, who is guilty of wanting to associate the Rhodesian Patriotic Front in any sharing of power south of the Zambezi River. Owen, who is intransigent about the maintenance of economic sanctions until a satisfactory solution is worked out, and is supported in this by the United States, is blamed by Smith for all the evils from which Rhodesia suffers.

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After receiving Mr Smith in the United States in October 1978, some American senators of the Rhodesia lobby (led by Robert Dole, Jacob Javits, Sam Hayskawa, etc.), accompanied by English members of Parliament, will go to observe the Rhodesian elections, thus giving them a certain credibility. In reality, these politicians are only the vanguard of powerful economic interests.

According to a list drawn up by the United Nations, 593 Western companies are trading illegally with the Salisbury regime. In most cases, the commercial transactions are carried out through the intermediary of South Africa. One British firm holds a place apart in this trade: the London and Rhodesian Land and Mining Corporation, better known by its abbreviation LONRHO. LONRHO, the first multinational company in Africa, represents in Rhodesia 72 British firms and 7 other Western companies.

Other British firms come close behind LONRHO. British Steel Constructions Ltd, which has three representatives in Salisbury, works in association with six Western monopolies: four American, one Canadian and one French. British Leyland Motor Company, associated with 11 European and American firms, has 6 subcontractors in Rhodesia.

The banks are not idle. Barclays Bank (London) manages the operations of several of its sister banks of the United States, France, Canada, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. National and Brindlays Bank (London), which is present in all the larger Rhodesian cities, represents French, Canadian and West German firms. Standard and Chartered Banking Group (London) controls the Rhodesian financial market through the intermediary of five branch offices.

America manifests its presence through the South African firms--in particular, the Anglo American Corporation of Mr Harry Oppenheimer, whose Rhodesian subsidiary, AMRHO, controls about 40 companies working in all economic sectors, and principally in mining production. Most of the American firms operating in South Africa are also active in Rhodesia.

The aid of the Western countries is especially conspicuous in the military sphere. Today, the Rhodesian Air Force, which has more than 100 airplanes, is equipped with Western planes which, for the most part, have been built under license in South Africa. Spare parts and light weapons come principally from South Africa, Israel, and NATO stocks.

Without this multiform aid, would Ian Smith's Rhodesia have survived 14 years of economic embargo and 7 years of war of liberation?

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SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL--The Brazilian Government has always avoided promoting trade between Brazil and South Africa, the Brazilian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman stated on 26 March. He was trying to rebut an article published the same day in one of the country's main dailies. JORNAL DO BRASIL had pointed out that, despite the UN recommendations, trade with South Africa, particularly Brazilian imports from that country, continued to increase. This harms Brazil's diplomatic efforts in Africa, particularly with the former Portuguese colonies. The official comment added that there has again been talk in Brazil of a South Atlantic military pact with Argentina and South Africa. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 11 Apr 79 p 79]

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TOGO

BRIEFS

BOAD SMALL BUSINESS LOAN--A loan agreement was signed on 24 January in Lome by the president of the West African Development Bank (BOAD), Pierre-Claver Damiba and the Togolese minister for finance and economy, Tevi Benissan acting as representative for the National Center for the Promotion of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CNPPME). This loan, in the amount of 260 million francs CFA, is intended to cover the partial financing for an expansion of the industrial area in Lome and for the creation of an industrial area in Lama-Kara in the northern part of the country. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Feb 79 p 322]

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UPPER VOLTA

BRIEFS

PAMA DAM PROJECT--A report submitted on 28 February to the Voltan Council of Ministers focuses on the projected dam on the Kompienga River at Pama. The project, whose study is assigned to the Canadian design company SLC (Surveyor Leniger Cheveret) comprises a rock-fill dam 1,450 meters long and 35 meters high, 1.5 billion cubic meters of stored water and a 7-MW [megawatt] turbine. The water level will extend over a length of 45 kilometers and a width of 18 kilometers at its widest section. Productivity of 32 million kWh [kilowatt hours] corresponds to Ouagadougou's consumption in 1977 or 50 percent of the country's total consumption at the time. Power will be transmitted by a 115-kV [kilovolt] line over a distance of 268 kilometers, passing through Garango (also to be used for transmitting the electricity produced at Bagre) in order to supply the capital. Use of water downstream from the dam will make it possible to irrigate 7,300 hectares by gravity, and thus without any consumption of energy as at Bagre, to supply the pumps. The dam's cost of construction, including a 25-kilometer access road from Pama, project study and engineering, transmission and risks, currently amounts to 10.1 billion CFA francs. The project's schedule sets the beginning of land operations immediately after the winter of 1980, i.e., between September and the end of October 1980. We may recall that on 14 February, the Council of Ministers declared the Pama dam project a priority (cf. MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS of 23 February p 153). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Mar 79 p 631] 11915

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